

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-18 remain pending in this application with claims 1, 5, 16, 17 and 18 being amended by this response.

Objection to the Title

The Title is objected to for failing to be descriptive. The title has been amended in accordance with the comments of the Examiner. In view of the amendment to the title, it is respectfully submitted that this objection is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Objection to the Abstract

The Abstract is objected to for use of improper language. The Abstract has been amended in accordance with the comments of the Examiner to remove phraseology often used in patent claims. In view of the amendment to the Abstract, it is respectfully submitted that this objection is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Objection to Claim 5

Claim 5 is objected to for spelling errors. Claim 5 has been amended in accordance with the comments of the Examiner to correct the spelling of the term "analogue". Thus, it is respectfully submitted that this objection is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 1-4, 6-7, 9-12 and 14-17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e)

Claims 1-4, 6-7, 9-12 and 14-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Goddard (U.S. Patent No.: 6,684,240).

The present claimed invention provides a method for selecting rating limits in a program content filtering system. The rating limits define whether programs are to be

blocked or are deemed to be acceptable. The method includes retrieving a stored preset rating example. Information is reproduced about the retrieved rating example. At least one recommended rating assigned to the rating example is supplied. A user indication about the acceptability of the rating example is detected. The user indication to the recommended rating is assigned. A rating limit is derived in response to assigning the user indication to the recommended rating. Independent claims 1 and 16 contain features similar to those discussed above.

“Due to the different rating systems...the user tends to be confused by the setup routines required to create the rating limits” (Page 4, lines 7-11). “For that purpose...a rating example is reproduced and...[a] user indication about the acceptability of [that]...rating example is detected and assigned” (Page 4, lines 22-24). “An EPG (Electronic Program Guide) decoder 11 receives a signal comprising data for establishing an EPG and data for the interactive setup of rating limits, especially up-to-date rating examples. The data for rating examples are decoded and stored in a rating examples database 12, from which they can be accessed later upon request of the user” (Page 7, lines 3-8). In this way the present claimed invention can set rating limits for the user based on their acceptability of specific program examples (Page 9, lines 20-24).

Goddard (U.S. 6,684,240) describes “a method of setting content rating parameters of a content control system...A user may set acceptable content rating parameters based on the rating of example content by blocking or unblocking the example content. The content rating system compares the content rating of the example content with the existing acceptable content rating parameters and adjusts the content rating parameters accordingly” (Col. 2, lines 30-39). “When a user such as a parent has requested a television program, and...may decide that the program contains subject matter that is inappropriate for a protected audience...the parent may...block access to the television program and other television programs having similar content...thereby commanding the parental control system to block the example television program” (Col. 8, lines 12-28).

The Office Action asserts that Goddard discloses setting rating limits based on the user defined acceptability of example programs. However, the “example television program” described by Goddard is merely the user selected broadcast channel (Col. 8, lines 12-28). Goddard describes a user selection process wherein the **user chooses which program** is to be viewed (example program) and *then* manually accesses the rating limits program to set a rating schema. The program chosen by the user manually selected and received and not preset nor stored. This is entirely unlike the present claimed invention which provides the user with **preset** example programs from a **stored** location (Page 7, lines 16-24 and Page 9, lines 17-28). By providing the user with continuous **stored preset** examples of programs, a more complete ratings scheme can be set. Thus, the examples described by Goddard et al. are unlike the **stored preset** example programs provided in the present claimed invention. Therefore, Goddard neither discloses nor suggest “retrieving a stored preset rating example” as recited in claims 1 and 16 of the present invention.

As claims 2-4, 6-7, 9-12, 14-15 and 17 are dependant on independent claims 1 and 16, it is respectfully submitted that they are allowable for the same reasons as discussed above in regards to claims 1 and 16. In view of the above remarks it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-4, 6-7, 9-12 and 14-17 are also allowable.

In view of the above remarks and amendments to the claims it is respectfully submitted that there is no 35 USC 112 compliant enabling disclosure in Goddard showing the above discussed features. It is thus further respectfully submitted that claims 1-4, 6-7, 9-12 and 14-17 are not anticipated by Goddard. It is thus, further respectfully submitted that this rejection is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 5 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claim 5 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by Goddard in view of Knowles et al. (U.S. Patent No.: 6,505,348).

Knowles et al. describe a multiple Interactive Program Guide (IPG) system which provides different television programming and different IPGs to several different users. The data can be added or modified by a second user to influence the viewing rights of a first user.

The Office Action asserts that Knowles et al. disclose the principles of the present claimed invention. However, Knowles et al. are not concerned with a rating limits interactive setup nor stored preset example programs to help a user set a ratings schema. Thus, Knowles et al., similar to Goddard, neither disclose nor suggest “retrieving a stored preset rating example” as recited in claim 1 of the present invention.

The Office Action asserts further that the combination of the systems of Goddard and Knowles et al. would disclose the principles of the present invention. However, the combined system, similar to the individual systems of Goddard and Knowles et al., neither discloses nor suggests “retrieving a stored preset rating example” as recited in claim 1 of the present invention. As claim 5 and 13 are dependant on independent claim 1 it is respectfully submitted that claims 5 and 13 are allowable for the same reasons as discussed above in regards to claim 1.

In view of the above remarks and amendments to the claims it is respectfully submitted that there is no 35 USC 112 compliant enabling disclosure in Goddard and Knowles et al., when taken alone or in combination, showing the above discussed features. It is thus further respectfully submitted that claims 5 and 13 are patentable over Goddard and Knowles et al., when taken alone or in combination. It is thus, further respectfully submitted that this rejection is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by Goddard in view of Ali et al. (U.S. Patent Application No.: 2002/0199186 A1).

Ali et al. describe a system for making program recommendations to a user by utilizing user expressed preferences as inputs. The predictive algorithms are adaptive, improving in accuracy as more programs are rated.

The Office Action asserts that Ali et al. disclose the principles of the present claimed invention. However, Ali et al. are not concerned with a stored rating limits interactive setup nor preset example programs to help a user set a ratings schema. Thus, Ali et al., similar to Goddard, neither disclose nor suggest “retrieving a stored preset rating example” as recited in claim 1 of the present invention.

The Office Action asserts further that the combination of the systems of Goddard and Ali et al. would disclose the principles of the present invention. However, the combined system, similar to the individual systems of Goddard and Ali et al., neither discloses nor suggests “retrieving a stored preset rating example” as recited in claim 1 of the present invention. As claim 8 is dependant on independent claim 1 it is respectfully submitted that claim 8 is allowable for the same reasons as discussed above in regards to claim 1.

In view of the above remarks and amendments to the claims it is respectfully submitted that there is no 35 USC 112 compliant enabling disclosure in Goddard and Ali et al., when taken alone or in combination, showing the above discussed features. It is thus further respectfully submitted that claim 8 is patentable over Goddard and Ali et al., when taken alone or in combination. It is thus, further respectfully submitted that this rejection is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goddard in view of Cooper Jr et al. (U.S. Patent Application No.: 2003/0223734 A1).

As discussed above, the “example television program” described by Goddard is merely the user selected broadcast channel. Goddard describes a process wherein the

user chooses which program is to be viewed (example program) and *then* manually accesses the rating limits program to set a rating schema. This is entirely unlike the present claimed invention which provides a stored rating limits interactive setup which **retrieves stored present rating examples** and provides them to the user to assist in setting a rating schema. Therefore, Goddard neither discloses nor suggest “a processor for executing a rating limits application, wherein said rating limits application **retrieves and provides stored preset rating examples** and processes user indication about the acceptability of said rating examples in order to derive rating limits from said user indications” as recited in claim 18 of the present invention.

Cooper Jr et al. describe a recording function in the event that no program data is available. First, the function seeks to use available program information and then intelligently guesses at unavailable information. The user is given the ability to change any of the guessed information.

The Office Action asserts that Cooper Jr et al. disclose the principles of the present claimed invention. However, Cooper Jr et al. are not concerned with a rating limits interactive setup nor preset example programs to help a user set a ratings schema. Thus, Cooper Jr et al., similar to Goddard, neither disclose nor suggest “a processor for executing a rating limits application, wherein said rating limits application **retrieves and provides stored preset rating examples** and processes user indication about the acceptability of said rating examples in order to derive rating limits from said user indications” as recited in claim 18 of the present invention.

The Office Action asserts further that the combination of the systems of Goddard and Cooper Jr et al. would disclose the principles of the present invention. However, the combined system, similar to the individual systems of Goddard and Cooper Jr et al., neither discloses nor suggests “a processor for executing a rating limits application, wherein said rating limits application retrieves and provides stored preset rating examples and processes user indication about the acceptability of said rating examples in order to derive rating limits from said user indications” as recited in claim 18 of the present invention.

In view of the above remarks and amendments to the claims it is respectfully submitted that there is no 35 USC 112 compliant enabling disclosure in Goddard and Cooper Jr et al., when taken alone or in combination, showing the above discussed features. It is thus further respectfully submitted that claim 18 is patentable over Goddard and Cooper Jr et al., when taken alone or in combination. It is thus, further respectfully submitted that this rejection is satisfied and should be withdrawn.

The applicant respectfully submits, in view of the above arguments, that the all arguments made by the Examiner have been addressed and this rejection should be withdrawn. Therefore, the applicant respectfully submits that the present claimed invention is patentable.

No additional fee is believed due. However, if an additional fee is due, please charge the additional fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,

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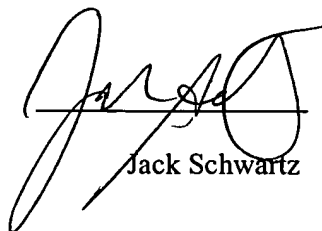
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